

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: K. AOTA, et al.

Application No.: Divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/820,231, filed March 18, 1997

Filed: On even date herewith

For: FRICTION STIR WELDING METHOD AND STRUCTURE BODY

Art Group in Parent: 3635

Examiner in Parent: R. Canfield

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

June 23, 2003

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find a List, on a form substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, of documents cited in connection with prior applications of the above-identified application, as well as documents cited in connection with the present application and enclosed herewith. The prior application of the above-identified application, in which various of the documents on the enclosed List have been cited, is prior Application No. 08/820,231, filed March 18, 1997.

The documents being submitted herewith are the following:

- a. "Welding and Material Fabrication", January 1995, Vol. 63 No. 1 (front page, page 1 (contents), pages 13-16);
- b. "The 2nd International Forum on Aluminum Ships/Conference Proceedings "Leading the Way"", November 22-23, 1995 (front page; section III (contents); 4.0 New joining technologies for ship constructions)

- c. "Aluminum Technology Handbook", Light Metal Association, June 16, 1985 (front page; contents; pages 1682-1693; back page)
- d. "VERK Ständerna" (front page; page 3 (table for contents); page 5; pages 32-34)
- e. "Sventsaren", Vol. No. 3, 1995 (front page; contents; pages 5-6)
- f. "BILLETIN 6", November/December 1995 (front page; contents; pages 124-127, 142, back page)
- g. "The 4th International Conference on: "Aluminum Alloys", Vol. 1 Conference Proceedings, September 11-16, 1994 (front page; contents; pages 451-457)

To the extent that the listed documents were cited in connection with prior Application No. 08/820,231, which is being relied upon under 35 USC §120 in the above-identified application, copies of the listed documents are not enclosed. See 37 CFR 1.98(d).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted concurrently with the filing of the above-identified Divisional application. Accordingly, requirements of 37 CFR 1.97(b) are clearly satisfied.

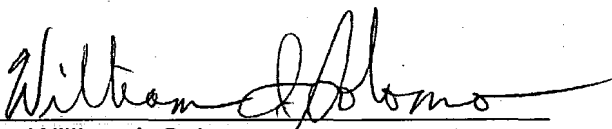
Note that various of the listed documents, which were previously submitted in Application No. 08/820,231, are discussed in Information Disclosure Statements submitted in No. 08/829,231. Reference to these Information Disclosure Statements for discussions in connection with, for example, references not in English, is respectfully requested.

In view of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with all documents on the enclosed List. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, upon examination of the above-identified application, is respectfully requested.

Kindly charge any additional fees due, or credit overpayment of fees, to
Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case: 503.35255VX1).

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP

By 
William I. Solomon
Reg. No. 28,565

Attachments: Form PTO-1449

WIS/dlt/led
Tel.: (703) 312-6600
Fax: (703) 312-6666

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Complete if Known		
			Application Number	Not Assigned Yet	
			Filing Date	On even date herewith	
			First Named Inventor	AOTA, KINYA	
			Art Unit	3635	
Examiner Name	R. Canfield				
Attorney Docket Number	503.35255VX1				
Sheet	1	of	2		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)				
		US-5,388,529	1995		Tieberghien et al.	
		US-5,979,742	1999		Enomoto et al.	
		US-3,849,871	1974		Kaunitz	
		US-5,794,835	1998		Colligan, et al.	
		US-5,460,317	1995		Thomas, et al.	
		US-5,140,913	1982		Takeichi, et al.	
		US-5,098,007	1992		Tsuruda, et al.	
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				
		US-				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials ¹	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)					
		JP 57-112813		1980			
		JP 54-11250		1979			
		JP 7-266068		1995			
		JP 10-216964		1998			
		JP 60-166177		1985			
		JP 51-111925		1975			
		JP 6-156272		1994			
		JP 7-33016		1996			
		JP 0 579 500 A1		1994			
		WO 93/10935		1993			

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard St.3). ⁴For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449B/PTO		Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Application Number	Not Assigned Yet
		Filing Date	On even date herewith
		First Named Inventor	AOTA, KINYA
		Group Art Unit	3635
		Examiner Name	R. Canfield
(use as many sheets as necessary)		Attorney Docket Number	503.35255VX1
Sheet	2	of	2

OTHER PRIOR ART—NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published	T ²
		Friction Stir Process Welds Aluminum Alloys, Welding Journal, American Welding Society, Vo. 75, No. 3 (1996)	
		Light Metal Welding Vol. 33, No. 7, pp. 19-26 (1995)	
		Two Prints dated June 23, 1993 showing details from a video from the Welding Institute	
	✓	Verksstaderna Nr 2, pp. 32 and 34 (1996)	
		Advanced Materials & Processes, pp. 22-23, (1993)	
		Metalworking Technology Europe, Sterline Publication, pp. 143-145, (1994)	
		An Introduction to Friction Stir Welding and its Development, by CJ Dawes, Welding & Metal Fabrication, pp. 13-16, (1995)	
	✓	Welding and Material Fabrication, Vol. 63, No. 1, pp. 13-16, January (1995)	
	✓	The 2 nd International Forum on Aluminum Ships/Conference Proceedings, "Leading the Way", November 22-23 (1995), front page, §III (contents), 4.0 New joining technologies for ship constructions	
		Aluminum Technology Handbook, Light Metal Association, June 16 (1985), front page, contents, pp. 1682-1693, back page	
	✓	Verk Standerna, front page, page 3, (table for contents), page 5, pp. 32-34	
	✓	Sventsaren, Vol. No. 3, front page, contents, pp. 5-6, (1995)	
	✓	Billentin 6, November/December (1995), front page, contents, pp. 124-127, 142, back page	
	✓	The 4 th International Conference on: Aluminum Alloys, Vol. 1, Conference Proceedings, September 11-16, (1994), front page, contents, pp. 451-457	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
--------------------	--	-----------------	--

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ²Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.